and whether Government have any scheme under consideration so that these women should start their own business/ industries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) Since food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information in regard to the number or rural women employed in the food processing industries is not being maintained centrally. The Ministry is operating a scheme for assisting State government organisations, cooperatives, autonomous bodies, voluntary organisations, etc. for setting up of Food Processing Training Centres particularly in the rural areas for providing training to potential entrepreneurs including women in the techniques of production and marketing of food products and management of small food processing units. The implementing agencies are expected to make special efforts for involving women and unemployed youth as trainees. Of the 250 Centres proposed to be assisted during the Eighth Plan, assitance has already been provided for establishment of 42 such Centres since the beginning of the Eighth Plan.

India's share in World Production of fruits and vegetables

2768. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's share in world production of fruits and vegetables is 7 per cent and 11 per cent respectively;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India processes less than 1 per cent of the total production in the country;

(c) what is the comparative figures of percentage in neighbouring countries in this regard; and

(d) what incentives Government propose to give to boost the processing of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) As per available information, India's share in world production fruits and vegetables is 8.13% and 12.97% respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per available information, the total fruits and vegetables processed in Malaysia is 83% and in Phillipines 78%.

(d) Besides Government have placed development of processed food industry in the priority sector and delicenced most food processing industry. It has also provided fiscal concessions for the processed food products as well as capital goods for the processed food products. Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various Plan schemes to seek provide assistance for setting up of units in the public/joint/cooperative sectors. In addition, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Horticulture Board also provide various assistances for post-harvest processing, exports, etc.

Fuel used by Deep-sea fishing Industry

2769. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recommendations or proposals have been conveyed to Finance Ministry to re-introduce the Central Excise Subsidy on fuel oil used by deep-sea fishing industry in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if no recommendations were made what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. This Ministry had taken up the matter regarding restoration of Central Excise Rebate for the deep Sea Fishing Industry with the Finance Ministry. However, the Finance Ministry had not agreed to the same.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposals for Deep-sea fishing Industry for 1993-94

2770. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any specific proposals for the 1994-95 to revive the deep-sea fishing industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The rehabilitation package announced in 1991-92 and revised in 1992-93 is applicable for 1993-94 and 1994-95. The Government is also providing assistance to the deep sea fishing sector in the form of subsidies as well as developmental incentives. The Government has also constituted a Technical Committee to recommend means for revival of sick deep sea fishing units. This Committee has not submitted its report.

Clearance of cases of entrepreneurs involved in deep sea fishing

2771. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that entrepreneurs from Southern States involved in deep-sea fishing have to come frequently to Delhi for clearances, etc. for their joint ventures and other permissions;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to streamline the administration; and

(c) what is the average delay in this matter of giving responses and clearances by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) While no fixed time frame has been stipulated for clearance of Joint ventures and other permissions, applications complete in all respects are disposed of expeditiously. The proposals for joint ventures etc. are considered on merit in terms of deep sea fishing Policy and personal visits of the entrepreneurs to Delhi for clearances etc. are not necessary.

Participation of SCICI in Murari Committee

*2772. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the S.C.I.C.I. was represented on the Murari Committee set up by the Minister of Food Processing Industries to study ways of reviving the sick deep-sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, what were the suggestions and participation of S.C.I.C.I. in the Committee meetings; and

(c) what are the reasons for taking adverse stand towards small and individual operations in the deep-sea fishing sector by S.C.I.C.I.?

*Previously Unstarred Question transferred from 21.12.93.